

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HIDETOSHI NISHI ET AL.

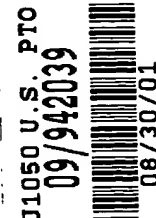
Serial No.: TBA

Group Art Unit:

Filed: Herewith

Examiner:

Title: ROLLING METHOD FOR STRIP ROLLING MILL AND STRIP
ROLLING EQUIPMENT



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR \$1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The relevance of these references to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the Background and Summary of the Invention in the specification of the present invention.

English abstracts of the Japanese Patent documents are submitted herewith, and therefore no concise explanation for such foreign language documents is required.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no

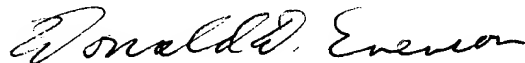
certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket 381AS/50328#).

Respectfully submitted,

August 30, 2001



Donald D. Evenson
Registration No. 26,160

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-5116